DEMOCRATIC

GERMAN REPORT

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BONN TREATY IS VOID

"Overthrow Adenauer" Call

The Bonn Treaty establishing a new West German Wehrmacht is null and void for the German people, the East German Parliament solemnly proclaimed on March 20th.

One day earlier, in the Bonn Parliament house, which was protected by triple rows of barbed wire and huge masses of police against peace demonstrators, the Bonn Treaty was ratified, against the votes of the Social Democrats, Communists, and a number of independents.

The Bonn Treaty, which must still be ratified by France and other West European countries before going into force, states that its aim is to "integrate Germany into a growing Atlantic Community." In fact the treaty provides for the permanent division of Germany, and the raising of a strong West German army commanded by former nazi officiers.

The Parliament of the German Democratic Republic issued a stirring appeal addressed to all Germans, calling on them to unite in the fight against the treaty:

"The ratification . . . has taken place against the wishes of the German people, in defiance of the constitution and international law, in breach of the allied agreements reached at Yalta and Potsdam regarding the right of the German people to a peace treaty guaranteeing national unity and a life in freedom, democracy and independence.

"For the German people the shameful treaties of Bonn and Paris are null and void . . .

"By fighting shoulder to shoulder, all German patriots must prevent the war treaties of Bonn and Paris being put into effect. It is the national duty of every German to fight to overthrow the Adenauer Government of national treason.

"The Adenauer regime must be overthrown in order to make way for a government of patriotic forces in West Germany.

"All Germans call for the immediate summoning of a Four Power Conference to work out a peace treaty with Germany.

"The two houses of the Parliament of the German Democratic Republic declare that they stand by their earlier offers aiming at:

Reaching all-German agreement on the speediest conclusion of a peace treaty, which would allow the creation of a united,

(cont. on p. 2)

West German Street Names Remilitarised

Remilitarisation in West Germany has now been extended to street names. In the town of Osthofen, American Zone, the town council has decided on the following re-naming:

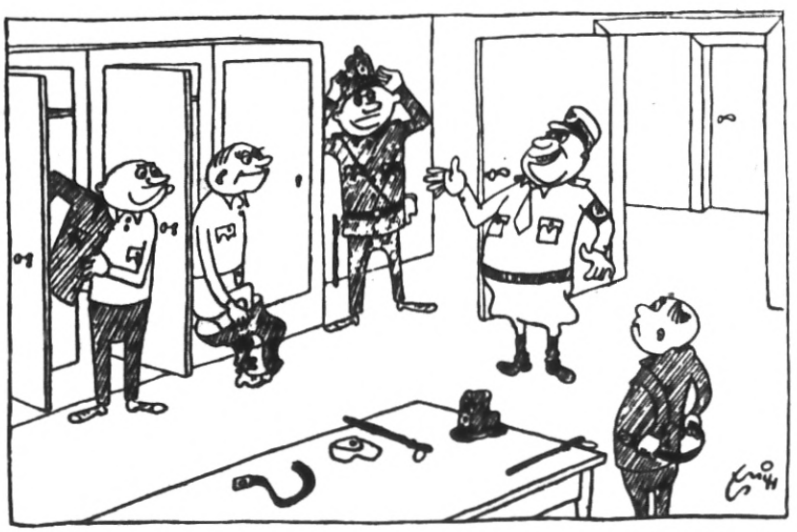
Liebknecht Strasse, named after the famous Socialist, will be re-named Moltke Strasse, after the Field Marshal.

Thomas Mann Strasse, named after the famous writer, will be renamed Bismarck Strasse, after the reactionary "Iron Chancellor".

The name of Communist leader Thaelmann, murdered by the nazis, will also disappear from the list of streets names.

In the town of Peine the Ossietzky Strasse, named after the Nobel Peace Prize winner murdered by the nazis will be named Sedan Strasse, celebrating a German victory in the Franco-Prussian war.

WITH THE WEST GERMAN POLICE



(from the "Berliner Zeitung")

"Beating up Communists, arresting Socialists, its just like old times. So I said to my self: Why not put on your old Storm Troop uniform?"

(cont. from p. 1)

independent and democratic state.

The withdrawal of all occupation troops.

The creation of an all-German government by means of free, democratic, secret and direct elections in the whole of Germany."

Before the East German Parliament passed the appeal, it was addressed by Dr. Joseph Wirth, former German Chancellor and leading Catholic politician, who is now one of the leaders of the "German Assembly", a movement uniting all sections of the West German population who are against remilitarisation and in favour of reunification.

Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl, in a speech reported more fully on page 3, said:

"The fight for national liberation has not ended, but begins today on a new level. The German people do not intend to die in a war for American imperialism, and they do not intend to live kneeling to the Americans.

"We want the unity of our country and a just peace treaty, in order to be able to live peacefully side by side with all nations which want peace."

Summarised Terms of Bonn Treaty and Subsidiary Agreements

Terms of Draft Peace Treaty Proposed by Soviet Union March 10th 1952

a. Occupation

Foreign troops have unlimited use of West German territory for an indefinite period. Article 5 of treaty lays down that western powers may order their troops into action against population at any time "to maintain or restore order."

"All armed forces of the occupation powers must be withdrawn from Germany at the latest one year after a peace treaty with Germany comes into force. At the same time all foreign military bases on German territory will be liquidated."

b. Military Clauses

West German Wehrmacht of at least 12 divisions to be raised under the command of old nazi officers and under supreme command of an American general. Arms production, including V-weapons and tanks, to go ahead full blast.

"Germany will be allowed to possess its own national armed forces necessary for the defence of the country. Germany guarantees to enter into no coalition or military alliance directed against any state whose armed forces took part in the war against Germany."

c. Para-military organisations

A free hand for "Old Soldiers' Leagues" and neo-fascist gangs. Democratic organisations such as the Free German Youth are already banned in West Germany.

"Democratic parties and organisations . . . must be guaranteed freedom of activity . . . Organisations opposed to democracy and the cause of the maintenance of peace will not be allowed to exist on German territory."

d. Trade

Prohibition of trade with East Germany, East Europe and China. Forced imports of manufactured goods and exports of raw materials.

"No limitations will be placed upon the development of Germany's peace economy, which should serve to increase the prosperity of the German people.

e. Sovereignty

Germany remains partitioned. All laws, orders and regulations issued by western High Commissioners remain in force. West German Republic renounces "certain sovereign rights." No limits are set on the "Defence Contribution," which would mean that German mercenaries could be sent to any part of the world, as soldiers or strike-breakers.

"Germany will be restored as a unified state. This . . . will give united Germany the opportunity to develop as an independent democratic peace-loving state.

"All persons, without distinction of race, sex, language or religion shall enjoy the human rights and fundamental freedoms."

f. Method of Conclusion

West German Chancellor Adenauer railroads the ratification of the treaty through his parliament against enormous oposition in the countryside, and despite the fact that the Constitutional Court has not yet given a ruling as to whether parliament is constitutionally entitled to defide on the treaty by a simple majority.

An all-German Government and all countries which participated in the war against Germany will take part in the peace conference.

After the peace treaty has come into force Germany will enter the United Nations.

Stalin's Name For Germany's First Socialist City

East Germany's first Socialist city, the residential town being built alongside the great new "Ost Steel Combine" on the river Oder, has been named Stalinstadt in honour of the late Soviet Premier.

The city, which already houses a large part of the 25,000 factory workers for which it has been planned, is Socialist from one end to the other, without a single private shop, without landlords, and with facilities for sport, culture and health unequalled in any other German city.

Construction of the city began in summer 1951, soon after work started on the great steel combine, which will work iron from the Soviet Union and coal from Poland into steel for Germany's peace industry. Original plans called for completion in 1955, but the use of new building methods and pre-fabricated parts have made it possible to move the target date ahead to 1954.

Main principles in the planning of Stalinstadt have been to divide the city area up into a number of semi-self-contained residential quarters; to concentrate the main buildings round one central square; to provide the maximum of open spaces and parks; and to form an organic whole between the town and the factory which gives it life.

Other steps taken by the East German authorities to honour the memory of Stalin have been to name the great East Berlin Electrical Machine Works after him, and to convert into a memorial the house in which Stalin stayed during the Potsdam Conference in 1945.

Marx Memorial Meeting Banned

West German authorities banned a Marx Memorial meeting due to held in Karl Marx' birthplace, Trier, on March 14th, the 70th anniversary of his death.

The ban was signed by Peter Jacob, Social Democratic member of the West German Parliament.

The British Government refused to grant visas to three representatives of the East German Socialist Unity Party who wished to visit Britain to lay a wreath on Karl Marx' grave in Highgate Cemetery, London.

ADENAUER MUST GO

From a speech by Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl to the Parliament of the German Democratic Republic, March 20th 1953

Adenauer's wave of terror in West Germany has reached a new high point. He is so frightened of the will of the people that he has ordered the arrest of large numbers of patriots. Police raids and other acts of terror against the organisations of the peaceable population have become a daily occurrence.

Many patriots, Social Democratic and Communist workers, are being prosecuted for "preparing to commit high treason."

Cannon Fodder

When for instance the young people in West Germany protest against the prospect of being used by the Americans as cannon-fodder in all parts of the world, that is "high treason" in the eyes of Adenauer and his gang.

We have got some details about the brutalities committed by the West German police in seizing these young people, including Jupp Angenforth, the youngest member of the provincial parliament of North Rhine Westphalia.

After his arrest detectives broke into his apartment and beat his sister-in-law, who has a weak heart, until she fell unconscious. When his wife came back from doing the shopping, with their 16 month old child on her arm, a policeman punched her in the face because she went to the window and called for a doctor.

In Hamburg Frau Hilde Benthin was arrested and thrown into prison with her four-week-old baby.

That is Adenauer's police state, that is fascism raising its head again.

Hitler's Footsteps

The Adenauer regime is treading in Hitler's footsteps ever more plainly. Like Hitler, Adenauer has called for the banning of the Communist Party. The Communist Party is a dangerous opponent for Adenauer, because it rips the mask from his face. That is why he wants to ban the party.

Adenauer is doing his best to deliver West Germany up to the tender mercies of the American imperialists, so they can use it as the spring-board for war against the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic.

This dangerous gamble endangers not only the German people, but also all the other European nations whom it is intended to draw into the American pact system.

The final decision on the war treaties, and thus on the life or death of our people, will not be made by Adenauer's Government or by the Bonn Parliament, but by the people.

15 million Germans in West Germany have voted up to now in the plebiscite for a peace treaty and against the Bonn and Paris treaties. In the German Democratic Republic 13 million people have voted against remilitarisation.

Big Majority

This means thad a total of 28 million Germans have given a clear and unmistakable "no" to the war plans of the American and German imperialists. That is the overwhelming majority of the Germans entitled to vote. To neglect their wishes is to trample upon democracy.

We are meeting at an important moment. The Bonn and Paris treaties will deepen and make more permanent the partitioning of Germany, they prolong the period of occupation, rob West Germany of independence and sovereignty, entail heavier occupation and military expenditures for West Germany, and its inclusion in the agressive North Atlantic Pact.

These treaties entail the danger of a civil war, of German fighting against German, which would bring with it a new terrible catastrophe. The majority of the people have not been heeded by the Adenauer Government.

The new and important historic fact is that the state power in the German Democratic Republic, with the entire population, is determined to stand by the brave patriots of West Germany in their fight, and to extend them, if necessary, protection and help.

The new and important historic fact is that the worthy representatives of the Council of the German Assembly have come here from West Germany in order to seek, together with us, for a path to peaceful national reunification.

There is such a way!

We propose the calling of an all-German conference between plentipotentiaries of West Germany and East Germany, which should make all preparations for the speedy reunification of Germany and the holding of free democratic elections for a National Assembly.

We propose further the creation of a mixed German to study the conditions for holding all-German free elections, to work out an electoral law, and to ensure the holding of these elections.

I declare in the name of the Government of the German Democratic Republic, and I am sure in the name of the whole People's Chamber, that all our proposals for mutual understanding spring from a serious sense of patriotic responsibility, and that we stand fully by all the proposals which we have made.

We know that Adenauer has destroyed the chances of holding such discussions between the two governments. We are convinced, however, that under the pressure of the popular will Adenauer will fall just as Yoshida in Japan has fallen, and we are convinced that the day is not far off upon which a Government of National Reunification will be established in West Germany.

More Arrests in West Germany

More than one hundred progressives were arrested in West Germany in the week preceding the ratification of the Bon War Treaty, according to incomplete figures available in Berlin. A large proportion of those arrested were young people who will be due to serve as cannon fodder if the new West German Wehrmacht is formed.

A total of 120 apartments were searched and often partially demolished by police in the same period, in the course of searches for "illegal literature".

In West Berlin on March 19th, police smashed the door of the local offices of the Socialist Unity Party in Schoeneberg, American Sector, arrested 25 members of the party whom they found there, and tore down a red flag which had been flown at half-mast as a sign of mourning for President Klement Gottwald of Czechoslovakia.

PROFILE

JOSEPH WIRTH — CATHOLIC PATRIOT

What sort of a man is Joseph Wirth, former German Chancellor, who at the age of 74 has suddenly reappeared on the stage of German politics, with his impassioned appeal for the re-unification of Germany and against remilitarisation?

As chairman of the "German Assembly" in West Germany, Joseph Wirth has become one of the outstanding leaders of those German patriots of all parties who want a free, independent and democratic Germany.

Joseph Wirth, born in 1879, grew up in a Catholic family in Freiburg in the Black Forest. At an early age he began to play a prominent role in the Catholic Youth Movement, and was elected to represent their interests in the city council.

Finance Ministry

In 1913 he entered national politics, and was elected to the Reichstag as a member of the Catholic Centre Party. Soon after the fall of the Kaiser and the foundation of the Weimar Republic he was named Minister of Finance in the cabinet formed after the defeat of the right-wing Kapp Putsch.

He likes to tell how, the morning after his appointment, he arrived at the Finance Ministry, walked past the porter, and started to walk upstairs.

"Where are you going?" the porter shouted after him.

"To the Minister's room" replied Wirth.

"At eight in the morning? You're nuts" said the porter.

"I am the Minister" replied Wirth, and walked on.

Adenauer Silly

At the beginning of May 1921 there was a government crisis, and the Centre Party group in the Reichstag met to select the new Chancellor. Konrad Adenauer, then Lord Mayor of Cologne, was proposed as a candidate for the post. He explained his programme to the assembled politicians. It was so amateurish that the 75 year old chairman of the party, Peter Spahn, said loudly: "I've never heard anything so silly."

Adenauer was packed off back to Cologne, and Joseph Wirth became Chancellor. Adenauer has never forgiven or forgotten this defeat.

On May 10th, 1921, addressing the Reichstag, Chancellor Joseph Wirth outlined his programme: to maintain German unity, to save Germany from the danger of foreign invasion, and to maintain democratic liberties.

In the course of these endeavours he concluded the historic Treaty of Rapallo with the Soviet Union in April 1922. This pact helped to free Germany from the chains imposed by the policy of the western powers, and at the same time could have initiated an era of German-Soviet friendship, which would have been of advantage to both countries and to world peace.

Only two months later, however, German fascists murdered Wirth's Foreign Minister, Walter Rathenau.

"Enemy on Right"

On June 25th 1922, the day after the brutal murder, Chancellor Wirth, speaking in the Reichstag, proclaimed: "The enemy is on the right."

During the remainder of the Weimar Republic Joseph Wirth played a lesser role in various cabinet posts.

When the nazis came to power in 1933, Wirth escaped arrest and probable execution by fleeing to Switzerland. While another prominent Centre Party politician, Konrad Adenauer, lived happily in nazi Germany on his full pension, Joseph Wirth, the real German patriot, lived in great poverty, earning a scanty living as a tax adviser.

After the end of the war he returned to his home town of Freiburg, and watched with growing concern the developments in West Germany.

He soon recognised that the West German Government was stepping out along the old road, a road which a generation ago had led from defeat into a new war, and into new defeat and misery.

He travelled to Berlin to see for himself whether the Government of the German Democratic Republic was serious in its proposals for German unity.

He made up his mind for himself, and became the spokesman of a real patriotic policy in West Germany.

Joseph Wirth, former Chancellor, has always been a Catholic and a democrat, and these he has remained. As a German citizen he demands that Germany shall be united, that it should be a land of peace, and that it should think and plan for a peaceful future, and not for war.

"SEE FOR YOURSELVES"

Invitation to Social Democrats

West German Social Democrats should select commissions to visit the German Democratic Republic and see for themselves the achievements of the working-class movement there, the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party proposed in an open letter addressed to all West German Social Democrats on March 14th.

The letter pointed out that the present leaders of the Social Democratic Party in West Germany no longer represented the policy of the working class, but only the policy of the western occupation powers.

Social Democrats were urged to get together with Communists in the factories, in district groups, etc., and to fight alongside them for:

1. Higher wages, lower prices, and trade union codetermination in the factories.
2. Defence of the democratic rights of the working people against increasing fascisation.
3. Against the Bonn War Treaties, for the overthrow of the Adenauer Government, and for the formation of a government of national re-unification, which would conclude a democratic peace treaty.

"We propose a free exchange of opinons on these suggestions," the open letter stated. "We invite you to send commissions which can study the achievements and the policy of the working-class movement in the German Democratic Republic.

"We, for our part, are ready to send commissions on the invitation of your local and district party organisations, to discuss our joint problems.

"There is no more time to lose.

"We have a great joint history, the history of the German workers movement.

"We shall have a still greater joint history—the history of the united and victorious German workers movement."

"I HAVE ALWAYS BEEN ANTI-SEMITE"

Bishop Dibelius's Easter Message

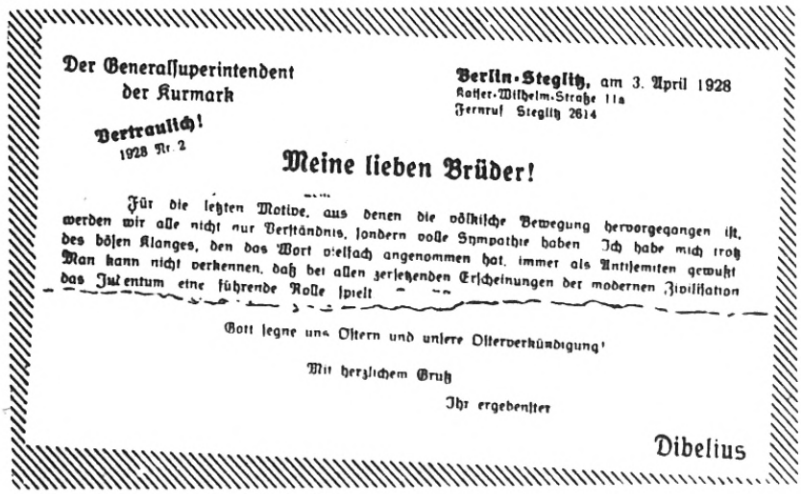
Karl Friedrich Otto Dibelius, Bishop of Berlin and Brandenburg, is a life-long and open anti-Semite, according to evidence available in Berlin

In December 1952 Bishop Dibelius came into the limelight when he appeared on the same platform as John Foster Dulles, the U. S. Secretary of State, at the meeting of the U. S. Church Assembly in Denver, Colorado. At this meeting he proclaimed "God has made Germany into a battlefield for the struggle between Christian culture and the spirit of materialism."

The Bishop's idea of what constitutes "Christian culture" may be seen in the printed letter reproduced on this page.

The letter, in circular form, was addressed to Protestant clergy in the diocese at a time when Bishop Dibelius was General Superintendent of the Evangelical Church in the Kurmark, an area near Berlin.

This letter was republished in a Berlin newspaper two years ago. Bishop Dibelius made no attempt either to deny its authenticity, or to excuse or explain its open anti-Semitism. It may therefore be assumed that he still holds the same sentiments.



Der Generalsuperintendent der Kurmark

Vertraulich! 1928 Nr. 2

Berlin-Steglitz, am 3. April 1928
Kaiser-Wilhelm-Straße 11a
Fernruf Steglitz 2614

Meine lieben Brüder!

Für die letzten Motive, aus denen die völkische Bewegung hervorgegangen ist, werden wir alle nicht nur Verständnis, sondern volle Sympathie haben. Ich habe mich trotz des bösen Klanges, den das Wort vielfach angenommen hat, immer als Antisemiten gewußt. Man kann nicht verkennen, daß bei allen zersetzenden Erscheinungen der modernen Zivilisation das Judentum eine führende Rolle spielt.

Gott segne uns Ostern und unsere Osterverkündigung!

Mit herzlichem Gruß

Ihr ergebenster

Dibelius

General Superintendent of the Kurmark

Confidential
1928 No. 2

Berlin-Steglitz
Kaiser Wilhelm Strasse 11a
April 3rd 1928
Telephone Steglitz 26 14

My dear brothers,

... We will all have not only understanding, but also full sympathy for the final motives which have given rise to the nationalist movement. **Despite the ugly sound which has often attached itself to the word, I have always regarded myself as an anti-Semite.** The fact cannot be concealed that the Jews have played a leading part in all the symptoms of disintegration in modern civilisation ...

May God bless our Easter and our Easter message.

With heartfelt greetings, yours truly

Dibelius

SOVIETS PROTEST AIR BREACH

On March 12th General W. Chuikov, Commander in Chief of the Soviet Occupation Troops in Germany, registered a sharp protest with the British High Commissioner in West Germany against the flight of a British bomber over East German territory.

General Chuikov's letter stated that the British bomber had flown 75 miles deep into the German Democratic Republic. Two Soviet fighters had challenged the British plane, and ordered it to land at the next airfield. His letter continues:

"The invading plane not only failed to follow these justified instructions, but opened fire on the Soviet planes.

"The Soviet fighters were forced to reply with warning shots, but the invading plane continued to shoot at the Soviet fighters.

"The Soviet fighters then found it necessary to return the fire.

"The plane, which was infringing air-space, then began to lose height, and crashed south-west of Schwerin on the territory of the German Democratic Republic.

"Two cannons, a heavy machine gun, ammunition and expended cartridge cases were found in the wreckage."

In a further letter to the British High Commissioner in West Germany on March 18th General Chuikov expressed his regret that the British crew had been killed, but at the same time drew attention to the fact that on March 12th alone two other cases of British planes infringing air sovereignty over the German Democratic Republic had been reported.

"In view of the necessity of guaranteeing flight security in future, and in order to prevent further misunderstandings in this connection, I propose that competent military representatives of the Soviet Union and Great Britain should meet in Berlin" General Chuikov proposed

"Such a conference could fulfil a useful purpose, particularly in view of the great speeds attained by present-day planes. The conference could discuss and decide upon joint concrete measures to be taken aimed at guaranteeing the observance of the existing flight rules for aircraft, and thus preventing such unpleasant incidents."

MY FRIEND THE COMMANDANT

by Walter Weidauer, Lord Mayor of Dresden

Things were difficult in the city of Dresden in May 1945, when the Soviet Army entered the city. The whole centre of the city was a dead waste, almost impenetrable.

Most of the municipal officials had fled to the west in the last days of the fascist war, in the hope, which was not disappointed, that the Americans would "show more understanding" for their deeds under Hitler.

We came as political prisoners from the prisons and concentration camps, or emerged from the illegal struggle. The city officials who had remained at their posts did not give us a particularly hearty welcome.

And in those days of May 1945, I was placed in charge of the 7th District. The First Soviet officer with whom I had contact was Comrade Captain Chukhunkin. We soon became friends, and I am very thankful to him today for the great help which he gave us, both materially and in the form of ideas.

Full of Plans

Captain Chukhunkin was a front-line soldier, always full of plans for overcoming our difficulties, both large and small, and he paid little heed to the hour of the day or the night.

I can clearly recall how he called on me on Whit Saturday 1945, one hour before midnight, with his eyes shining with excitement, to tell me that 21 Soviet lorries, loaded with potatoes for the population, had arrived in the suburb of Strehlen. The next day I saw him happily visiting the shops in which these rare potatoes were being sold.

Once he turned up at midnight to talk over a plan with me to provide Strehlen with water—war damage had cut off the main water supply. "Water is even more important than bread at the moment because of the danger of epidemics," he said.

For the next few days we were hard at it, getting the water flowing again, and as the pipe began to spit and the first thin rusty stream of water emerged, Captain Chukhunkin threw his arms round me with delight.

Then there was Comrade Colonel Bortnikov, who was city commandant during the years before the formation of our Republic in 1949.

The first thing he did was to find out all he could about our city and its problems. In the course of dozens of long and serious discussions I got to realise what a deep insight he had into these problems, and what an excellent grasp he had of the city's needs.

These discussions were in fact lessons, lessons about Dresden which very few native Dresdeners could have given.

Colonel Bortnikov never said "You must," or "I order." He gave friendly suggestions, but his friendly suggestions had been so thoroughly thought out, and examined from every side, that only a fool—or an enemy—would have rejected them.

Once when we were discussing supply difficulties in the city Comrade Bortnikov said to me: "We are the fathers of the city, and every father has the duty of caring for and providing for his family."

Fuel Problems

When there were great difficulties in the supply of fuel it was Comrade Bortnikov who proposed that we should mine a very small deposit of soft coal in an open-cast mine in the Bautzen district.

Again and again he travelled with me to the pit, helping to overcome the numerous small difficulties, seeing to it that there was proper accomodation for the workers, that there were decent wash-rooms, and that a special branch railway was laid.

He said later that it was one of his finest victories when he saw the first train loaded with coal rolling into Dresden.

He looked into everything—that the windows in the schools had glass, and that the school feeding programme went properly, for instance. I could write long articles about these Soviet officers and others like them.

Thank you, comrades and commandants. You made a great contribution both to our recovery and to the friendship between our peoples.

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Shot 30 POWs — Released

War criminal Wilhelm Klos, who was sentenced to death in January 1948 by a British Military Court in Hamburg, has been released by the British authorities from Werl Prison.

Klos was found guilty of complicity in the murder of 30 Soviet prisoners of war.

Government Grants for Church Restoration

Government grants totalling 650,000 marks have been made to the church authorities in the East German provinces of Thuringia and Saxony for church restoration work during 1953.

Over 20 churches, including the historic Erfurt Cathedral, and many other churches hundreds of years old, will be restored with the help of this grant.

Egyptian Museum Opened

The Egyptian Section of the Berlin State Museum, situated on the Museum Island in East Berlin, has just been opened again for the first time since the war.

The museum was badly damaged by allied bombing raids, and many of the mummies and othee exhibits had to be dug out of the ruins — for the second time.

French Censors

The Rector of the University of Tuebingen, French Zone, has warned professors of the university that they should not use the ordinary post for the transmission of confidential documents, since all letters are opened by the French occupation authorities.

Nazi Wehrmacht had "High Qualities of True Soldierlyness"

West Germany had great need of their "high qualities of true soldierlyness" stated Wilhelm Mellies, Deputy Chairmann of the West German Social Democratic Party, speaking to the annual meeting of the "German Soldiers' Association" in Bonn on March 21st.

The "German Soldiers' Association" includes representatives of all branches of Hitler's armed forces, including the S. S. Herr Mellies also called for the release of nazi war criminals still held in prison.

Ex-Admiral Hansen, President of the Association, demanded the release of the main war criminals, including Rudolf Hess, who are imprisoned at Spandau in the British Sector of Berlin.

Back in 1949, when being an anti-nazi was still quite popular, Herr Wilhelm Mellies wrote in his biography in the Bonn Parliamentary Handbook:

"Removed from teaching post (under Hitler, ed.) for political reasons."

In 1952, in the new edition of the handbook, he revised his biography to read:

"Resigned in 1933 from teaching post on own request."

NAZIS RUN W. GERMAN DIPLOMACY

Foreign Ministry Facts

Just one yeare ago, on March 28th 1952, GERMAN REPORT printed facts and figures showing that over 85 percent of the leading figures in the West German Foreign Ministry were former nazis.

Under public pressure, following these disclosures, the West German Parliament established an investigating commission, which investigated the records of exactly 21 of the 542 leading officials in the ministry.

After months of investigation, the commission recommended that the Foreign Ministry should consider sacking four of the officials, who were particularly badly incriminated.

On March 18th 1953, Professor Hallstein, West German State Secretary for Foreign Affairs, reported to Parliament that no action had yet been taken against a single one of these blood-stained nazis

"The civil service regulations provide no basis for disciplinary action against Dr. von Bargen" he reported.

Dr. Werner von Bargen is Minister for Special Duties in the West German Foreign Ministry. During the war he was attached to the nazi military government in Belgium and France. Here is a telegram which he sent and signed on April 6th 1944:

"All persons arrested for dissidence or restistance who would be suitable

Adenauer: "But there's no-one here at all."
(Deutsche Woche, West Germany)

subjects for reprisal actions have been sent to Germany ... The S. S. Obergruppenfuehrer suggest that the Foreign Office should obtain a list of suitable persons (for shooting as hostages, ed.) from the Reich Security Office ..."

Professor Hallstein, on March 18th 1953, assured the West German Parliament "There is no basis for disciplinary action to be taken against Dr. Dittman."

Dr. Herbert Dittmann is West German Consul-Elect for Barcelona, Spain. He was a member of the nazi party from 1937 on, and worked in the personnel department.

"In the case of Dr. Melchers" Professor Hallstein reported to the West German Parliament, "we have not yet received a report from the officials charged with making the investigations."

Dr. Wilhelm Melchers is a leading official in the personnel department of the West German Foreign Ministry. He headed the Oriental Department of Ribbentrop's nazi Foreign Ministry.

Evidence was given at the Nuremberg War Crimes Trials that he was directly responsible for the gassing of 600 Jewish children.

Professor Hallstein, on March 18th 1953, stated "No aspersions can be cast on the conduct of Dr. Heinz Truetzschler von Falkenstein."

Dr. Heinz Truetzschler von Falkenstein is today an Embassy Counsellor. He was author of the White Books issued by Hitler, falsifying the origins of World War Two, and was eployed throughout the war in the propaganda department of the nazi Foreign Office.

All these men, and literally hundreds more like them, control West Germany's foreign relations today. The results of the "Investigating Commission" are clearly exposed as a complete farce from beginning to end.

THE MEN WHO RULE IN BONN

Achenbach — Jew Baiter

Dr. Ernst Achenbach is the chairman of the Foreign Policy Commission of the West German Free Democratic Party, one of the parties represented in the coalition government.

He came into the news a few weeks ago as the defense counsel for a number of leading former nazis who had been arrested by the British occupation authorities.

Dr. Achenbach has occupied responsible positions before. During the war, for instance, he was chief of the political department of Hitler's embassy in occupied Paris. Here is a word-for-word translation of a telegram which he had addressed to the Foreign Office in Berlin in 1943:

Paris February 15th 1943, 2230
No. 1071 of 15. 2. Most Urgent

"On 13. 2. 43 at about 21:10 hours Lieutenant Colonel Winkler and Major Nussbaum of the staff of Luftwaffe Command III were shot at while on their way from their office to their quarters in the Hotel Louvre.

"Lieutenant Colonel Winkler was hit three times, and Major Nussbaum twice. Both died after being taken to hospital. Seven cartridge cases, calibre 7.65 mm., were found on the scene. Investigations are still in progress.

"As a first measure of punishment it is planned to arrest 2000 Jews and deport them to the east. Achenbach."

BERLIN NOTEBOOK

By John Peet

What do people do in the evening in the Democratic Sector of Berlin? In previous articles on this page I have mentioned the great thirst to learn in East Germany, and the way in which people of all ages flock to various sorts of evening schools.

But they do not go to evening school every evening of course. I have just been glancing down the entertainments columns of the East Berlin newspapers to see what is on this week.

The local cinemas in the district where I live are showing a fine variety of films, including "They Danced one Summer" (Danish), "Chopin's Youth" (Polish), "No Peace Under the Olives" (Italian), "Young Partisans" (Korean), "The Misused Love Letters" (Swiss), "The Curtain Rises" (Soviet Union), "The Condemned Village" (East German), "The Pearl Necklace" (West German), and "Clochemerle" (French).

Every Taste

There is something there for every taste, and I must say I was a little surprised myself when I finished writing the preceding paragraph to see what a really big variety of films, some excellent, some middling, and some rather poor, were showing in one district this week. It really almost looks like a programme for a gala film festival.

Then of course there is the theatre and the opera. The State Opera this week is offering "Traviata", Wagner's "Meistersinger", Beethoven's "Fidelio", Richard Strauss's "Rosenkavalier", and Puccini's "Madame Butterfly."

Dull Week

The Comic Opera has a rather dull week's programme with "Falstaff", "Freischütz", and one or two works not well known outside Germany, but in other weeks it offers a rousing "Carmen" and a rollicking "Paris Life" by Offenbach, among other excellent programmes.

The Metropol Theatre, which concentrates on operetta, has the "Student Prince", and Johann Strauss's "Zigeuner Baron" on the list for this week, as well as a new operetta called "Bolero" written by Eberhard Schmidt, an anti-fascist composer who fought in the ranks of the International Brigade in Spain.

The "Deutsches Theater" has something for everyone on its play sheet, ranging from a four-hour performance of Goethe's "Egmont" for those who like their classical tragedies at full length, to the knock-about farce of "Herr Puntilla" by Bert Brecht, Germany's greatest living playwright. Other plays being staged here in Max Reinhardt's old theatre include „Yegor Bulychov" by Maxim Gorki, and a production of Shakespeare's "Othello" is in preparation.

GENEROSITY

"The final plans for the deconcentration of the German dye trust I.G. Farbenindustrie were announced by the Allied High Commission today.

"They will give much satisfaction to the shareholders, for the terms are generous."

"The Times", London, March 21st 1953.

But less satisfaction to the six million persons killed by I.G. Farben gas, and the hundreds of thousands of slave labourers who worked and suffered in I.G. Farben factories.

Next door, in the "Kammerspiele" Theatre, they are showing Shaw's "Pygmalion"; a Soviet play entitled "Long Distance, Please" by Issayev and Galich; "Senora Carrar's Rifles", a play on the Spanish people's fight against Fascism by Bert Brecht; and "Jeanne d'Arc" by Anna Seghers (some readers may remember her fine Hollywood film "The Seventh Cross", with Spencer Tracy).

And this list has only taken in two of the theatres of Democratic Berlin. This column is getting to look rather like an amusement guide, but I must just mention that there is a permanent circus, with plenty of guest artists from abroad —largely from Denmark and Sweden recently; a huge variety theatre, and plenty of other opportunities of amusing yourself in the evening.

What do the theatres cost? If you buy your tickets at the box office, you pay on the average a little less than you would in London, and only half what you would in New York. But a very large part of the audience buy their tickets through theatre groups in factory and office, and a visit to the theatre costs them only about the same as a normal cinema ticket.

And the theatres and opera houses are always crammed, whether the programme is a farce or a serious piece that you really have to think about.

Some History

In 1941, in the middle of Hitler's war, a certain Dr Fechter, nazi literary critic, published a thick tome entitled "History of German Literature." The volume was, as one might expect, covered with a thick and gooey sauce of fascist racialist propaganda.

After the war Dr Fechter was quiet for a while, and worked in obscurity as reader for a publishing house in Gutersloh, Westphalia, British Zone.

A few months ago he crept out of his hide-out, sniffed the air, and decided that the time had come to re-publish his epic.

Now West Germany is being renazified fast, but it has not got to the stage of 1941 again yet, so Dr Fechter regretfully cut out a few paragraphs of his preface.

One of the paragraphs which he had to cut, undoubtedly with regret, read as follows:

"The book that forms the foundation of literature which appeals to the nationalist soul of the people is Adolf Hitler's great confession 'Mein Kampf'."

But the great mass of the book remains unchanged, and fascist authors are lauded to the skies. Where a few sentences have been changed they can scarcely be said to have been changed for the better. In 1941, for instance, Dr Fechter had this to say about Arnold Zweig's great book, "The Strange Case of Sergeant Grisha":

"This is a most disgusting book, presenting the German army to the world in a criminal light."

In the new 1952 edition of literary history Dr Fechter had changed this to:

"Arnold Zweig gives witness to the moral worth of Prussianism."

I think Arnold Zweig would prefer the old version, for anyone who has read it will remember that "Sergeant Grisha" was an outspoken denunciation of Prussian militarism in all forms.

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